

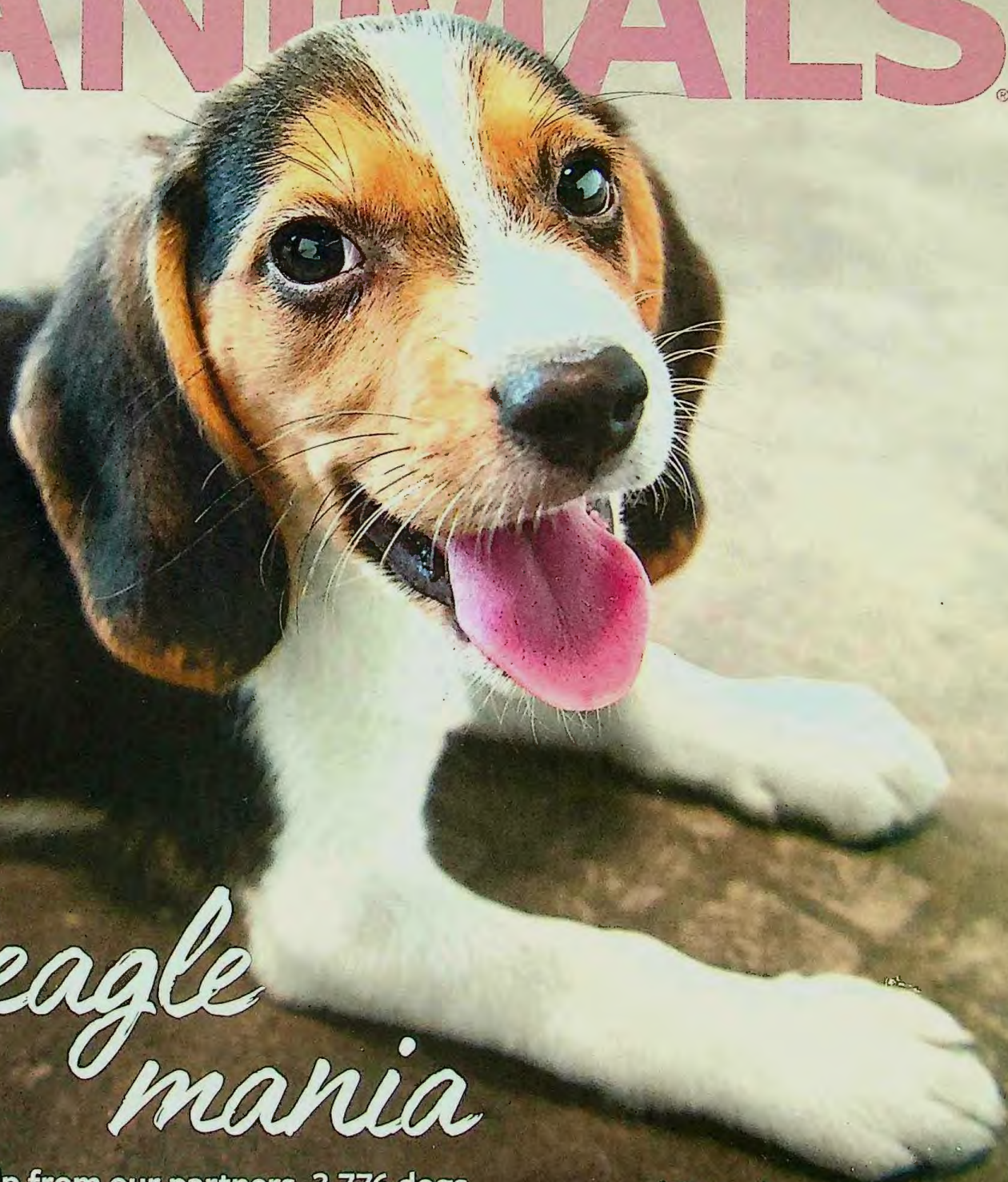
# ALL

WINNERS 1997

ENDING THE USE OF DOGS IN RESEARCH

MEMORABLE MOMENTS // GRIEF AFTER LOSING A PET

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Along with our partners, we transported nearly 4,000 beagles from a mass breeding facility to shelters and rescues across the country. Here, Samantha Nelson, HSUS senior specialist for shelter outreach and policy engagement, enjoys playtime with a beagle at our care and rehabilitation facility.

## COVER STORY

### 14 GOING BIG FOR BEAGLES

The scale was large and the stakes were high. Learn how we and our partners gave nearly 4,000 beagles a second chance.

*By Danielle S. Tepper*

**COVER CAPTION:** A pup enjoys playtime at our care and rehabilitation center.

## FEATURE

### 20 BUILDING A BETTER WORLD

We're celebrating another year of progress for animals by looking back at some of 2022's most impactful moments.

*By Kelly L. Williams*

## VOICES

- 3 President's letter
- 4 Letters from readers

## FRONT LINES

- 6 Laps, not labs
- 8 The USDA ends its "teachable moments" exemption
- 10 Intern profile
- 11 Responding to Hurricane Ian
- 12 Coming together for dogfighting survivors



## HUMANE LIVING

- 24 Your pet  
Saying goodbye to a furry friend can break your heart. We share tips for working through your grief.
- 28 Humane backyard  
Wild animals face plenty of threats, but your dog's hunting instinct doesn't have to be one of them.
- 30 In the kitchen  
Our Brazilian chef shares a plant-based take on a traditional fish stew.

## YOUR BEST SHOT

- 32 A reader photographs a very vocal pika in Colorado.



# Make a memorial donation

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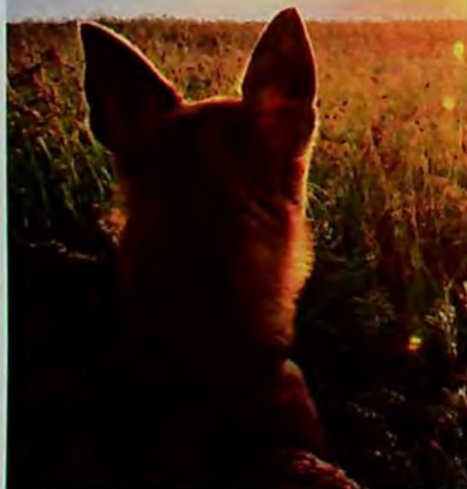
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*All Animals* tells the story of the Humane Society family of organizations and the animal protection movement. As advocacy journalists, we use facts, reason and compelling imagery to inspire readers to join our fight for all animals. We highlight our common ground with millions of people around the world who believe that animals deserve compassion.

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The Humane Society family of organizations works to end the cruelest practices toward animals, care for animals in crisis, build a stronger animal protection movement and create a better, more compassionate world.





President and CEO Kitty Block greets one of the nearly 4,000 beagles we transported from a mass breeding facility.

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*Day in and day out,  
 year after year, we  
 pool our enthusiasm  
 and expertise  
 to address so many  
 animal welfare issues.*

**EACH WINTER**, the *All Animals* team shares some of the year's biggest wins from across our family of organizations—and each year, I'm impressed and humbled by the depth and breadth of our work. Day in and day out, year after year, we pool our enthusiasm and expertise to address so many animal welfare issues, from taking fur out of fashion to battling puppy mills to bettering the lives of farm animals. Working with our allies in sheltering, law enforcement and government, we regularly make the extraordinary seem routine.

This issue of *All Animals* showcases some of the most impactful milestones from 2022 and places them in the wider context of our work (“Building a better world,” p. 20). I hope you'll take a few moments to read through those pages and to reflect on the part you played in making these moments happen. Without your support, none of these victories would have been possible. Whether you called a legislator, signed a petition, made a donation or simply opted for a more humane purchase at the grocery store, you helped make tremendous change for animals this year.

Many of you also stepped up to help with our historic transport of nearly 4,000 beagles from a mass breeding facility. Perhaps you fostered a pup, assisted with transportation or even adopted one of these deserving animals. You're not alone: So many people and partners played a role in this incredible effort, and we are grateful to everyone who helped. I know I'll never forget carrying that first beagle out of the transport van at our care and rehabilitation facility. You can get the inside scoop on the partnerships that made this operation possible in “Going big for beagles” (p. 14).

As I reflect on 2022, I'm amazed that our staff spent nearly the entire summer working tirelessly on this massive project—yet it was far from the only work we were carrying out! There are so many other successes to celebrate.

In just the past few months, we've celebrated progress across the globe: In South Korea, Humane Society International collaborated with partner group Korean K9 Rescue to save 21 dogs from a meat farm. In Costa Rica, HSI/Latin America conducted trainings on peacefully coexisting with wildlife, reaching more than 1,000 people. Two more U.S. states—Iowa and Massachusetts—passed HSUS-supported legislation to allow dogs and cats used in research a chance at adoption after their time in the laboratory is over. And in October, our legal team joined oral arguments at the U.S. Supreme Court defending Proposition 12, California's landmark law to address animal cruelty and public health issues stemming from the worst factory farming practices, such as confining pregnant pigs in gestation crates so small they can hardly move. (We hope the court will decide in our favor in early 2023.)

We've made so much progress protecting animals with you by our side, fighting for a kinder world. Thank you.

Kitty Block  
 President and CEO, the Humane Society  
 of the United States  
 CEO, Humane Society International and  
 Humane Society Legislative Fund



## We appreciate you!

More than 2,200 of you filled out our reader survey this summer, and we couldn't be more grateful. Your thoughtful responses help us make *All Animals* the go-to magazine for animal lovers and advocates. Although we can't respond to everyone personally, please know that we've read every single one of your responses, questions and comments. We're sharing a few of them here, along with suggestions for learning more.

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### SIGN UP FOR TEXT ALERTS

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### GET INVOLVED IN YOUR STATE

HSUS state directors in key states across the country engage citizens and policy-makers in animal protection issues. Learn more at [humanesociety.org/statecontacts](https://humanesociety.org/statecontacts).

*"I wish I could figure out how to help with my off time."*

Many of you were interested in volunteering with us! We have plenty of opportunities available: hands-on work with rescued animals, administrative work from your home, reaching out to legislators and more. Learn more at [humanesociety.org/volunteer](https://humanesociety.org/volunteer).



*"I wish there would be less animal testing because all we do in the end is hurt the animal. In [an increasingly technological] environment we should be able to test products in other ways."*

We couldn't agree more. Turn to p. 6 to learn about our work to end the use of dogs in research.

*"Several years ago, I was at our library making a copy of an article when the librarian noticed the magazine. She wanted info on getting a subscription for her granddaughters and the library. [Later,] I was so thrilled to see the magazine in my local library, which serves at least 130,000 residents and more than a million visitors each year."*

Thanks for spreading the word! Psst ... libraries qualify for free subscriptions to *All Animals*. Simply tell your librarian to email [allanimals@humanesociety.org](mailto:allanimals@humanesociety.org) with their organization's mailing address. And yes, that includes school libraries!

*"[Please share actions] anyone can do for free—such as signing petitions or shopping for the right pork brand or egg brand. People assume if they can't give money that there is nothing they can do."*

Great reminder. For suggestions of simple actions you can take from home, check out the "Change starts at home" story from our Summer 2021 issue. (Find it online at [humanesociety.org/simplechanges](https://humanesociety.org/simplechanges).)



*"Thanks for continuing to advocate for all animals, big and small!"*

Right back at you!



**We goofed!** When we launched our reader survey this summer, we forgot to include a question asking whether respondents wanted a thank-you gift. If you filled out the survey and would like a window decal that lets emergency responders know you have pets inside, please share your name and mailing address with us by emailing [allanimals@humanesociety.org](mailto:allanimals@humanesociety.org) or leaving us a voicemail with that information at 301-258-3008. Thank you!



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Expertly crafted of black faux leather, the trifold wallet displays a full-color custom print on the front flap featuring Charles Wysocki's playful cat, "Frederick

the Literate." Fun and fabulous, an adorable kitten peacefully snoozes among a library collection of cleverly titled literary works. The wallet has 13 credit card slots, a photo ID window and three different slip pockets to fit anything from change to a passport. For optimum organization, there are two open pockets and a zippered pocket inside the zippered compartment. Plus, there is a slip and zippered pocket on the back to hold bills and coins securely.

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Once confined to a laboratory cage, Teddy now lives the good life with adopters Dave Rubello and Greta Guest (shown at right).



## Laps, not labs

How we're fighting to end experiments on dogs and get these animals the homes they deserve

### TEDDY WAS NEVER MEANT TO HAVE A NAME.

He was born a number, just one of tens of thousands of dogs—mostly beagles like him, chosen for their trusting, docile nature and compact size—bred in the United States for use in experiments each year. Teddy was meant to live and die in a laboratory, without having a warm bed to sleep in, a toy to play with or the chance to feel grass beneath his paws.

His fate changed when an HSUS undercover investigation at a Michigan laboratory released in 2019 revealed he and dozens of other dogs were being force-fed fungicide every day for up to a year to test the substance's toxicity. Japan and South Korea had already dropped their requirement for the one-year toxicity test. With the help of the HSUS, Humane Society International and advocates around the world, the last holdout—Brazil—also eliminated its requirement, and the laboratory agreed to release the dogs for adoption.

Teddy finally got a name and the home he deserved.



Approximately **60,000** dogs are used in experimentation in the U.S. every year.



Like dogs, rats and mice are highly intelligent and experience pain, stress and fear.



Fewer than **10%** of drugs tested in animals ultimately succeed in human trials.

### SUFFERING, NOT SCIENCE

Approximately 60,000 dogs are used to test drugs, pesticides and other substances, or used for research, such as heart or neurological experiments, in the United States each year. Nearly all of them, including those healthy enough for adoption, die after their study concludes.

During a seven-month-long investigation at an Inotiv testing laboratory in Indiana, released in April 2022, our undercover investigator encountered nearly 6,000 animals—including dogs, primates and mice—nearly all of whom ultimately died. The investigator documented the suffering of at least 80 dogs, including puppies, who were regularly force-fed chemicals as part of a toxicity test commissioned by Crinetics Pharmaceuticals and scheduled to be euthanized. The laboratory has refused to respond to intense public and political pressure to release the dogs, making it highly unlikely they will ever make it out of the laboratory alive.

The plight of these animals is a heartbreaking reality of inaccurate and unnecessary animal testing, says Kathleen Conlee, HSUS vice president of Animal Research Issues. According to scientific reports, nearly 90% of drugs tested in animals ultimately fail in human trials, largely because animal tests didn't predict the drugs' toxicity in people.

"These animals are not mini-humans," Conlee says. "Companies and federal regulatory agencies have a responsibility to ensure drugs, chemicals and consumer products are safe for humans, but our continuing reliance on animal testing creates a false sense of security."

Despite their extremely high failure rate, animal tests continue to be the surest path to regulatory



approval, so their use continues. Why? Mainly because of the status quo, says Barry Londeree, program manager of Animal Research Issues for the HSUS. There hasn't been a strong impetus to pressure federal agencies to act on non-animal alternatives. But the HSUS and fellow advocates continue to push the FDA to play a stronger role in moving away from animal testing by incentivizing non-animal alternatives.

The benefit goes beyond eliminating unnecessary animal suffering, Londeree says. Scientific, non-animal testing methods—such as human organs on chips and next-generation computer modeling—can provide results that are faster, more accurate and more relevant to human biology. A recent academic study found that organ chips detected toxicity in nearly seven out of eight drugs that proved toxic in patients but had been approved through animal tests. That is an 87% success rate, far better than the roughly 10% success rate of those drugs approved using animal tests.

“We want to set a much higher bar for accuracy and animal welfare. Many alternatives exist; we just need to increase agencies’ confidence in using them,” Conlee says.

In addition to working with the FDA, the HSUS is pushing the National Institutes of Health, which supports research on animals at thousands of institutions around the country, to stop funding studies that use dogs and other animals and instead grant money for non-animal alternatives. The HSUS is also encouraging the Environmental Protection Agency, which has already committed to ending all mammal testing by 2035, to end tests such as the 90-day toxicity test for pesticides and other chemicals, similar to the unnecessary one-year test, immediately.



Advocates gathered at the Massachusetts state house in 2022 to support a bill that would require dogs and cats to be adoptable after their time in the lab ends.



**It's estimated that more than 50 million animals—including dogs, primates, rabbits, guinea pigs, mice and rats—are used and killed in experiments in the U.S. every year.**



A recent study found that organ chips had an **87% success rate** when used to detect toxicity in humans.



**74% of the U.S.** population opposes the use of dogs in toxicity tests for products such as pesticides, drugs and food additives.



**71% of the U.S.** population believes that the government should make stronger investments in developing non-animal methods for biomedical research and product testing.



**15 states** have passed laws requiring laboratories to offer dogs and cats for adoption into loving homes after their use in experiments ends.

## LIFE AFTER THE LAB

The HSUS is also working with lawmakers to limit or prohibit testing on dogs and to ensure as many dogs as possible are provided a chance at adoption after they leave the laboratory. In September, California became the first state to ban toxicity tests on dogs and cats for pesticides and food additives. And at press time, 15 states had passed HSUS-supported laws requiring facilities to make dogs and cats available for adoption after their time in the lab ends. The HSUS has helped introduce adoption bills in several other states—including Michigan, where Teddy has met with legislators and appeared at events to help promote the measure.

Veterinarian and advocate Joann Lindenmayer, who worked with former HSUS Massachusetts state director Laura Hagen to help pass the state's adoption bill earlier this year, says the legislation in her state received overwhelming support from legislators on both sides of the aisle and the general public once they learned about the issue. “I don't think I've ever spoken to someone who was already aware that dogs were used in experiments,” Lindenmayer says. “People are shocked, truly shocked, and want to see these dogs have a better life.”

Many people assume only mice and rats are used in research and testing, “and only for truly scientifically vital reasons,” says Hagen, now part of the HSUS Wildlife Protection department. This misconception is why our work is key to bringing about the change that dogs like Teddy, and all other animals, deserve. “We're getting there—each step forward gets us closer to the day that no animals suffer in the name of science.”

—Emily Hamlin Smith



Former Massachusetts state legislator Jose Tosado with Louie, who was previously used in research.

## TAKE ACTION

→ Urge the FDA to stop using outdated animal tests at [humanesociety.org/endtesting](https://humanesociety.org/endtesting).

→ Support all our lifesaving work using the envelope on p. 16 or at [humanesociety.org/winter23](https://humanesociety.org/winter23).

→ Contact your state director to learn how you can help protect dogs, cats and other animals in your state. Visit [humanesociety.org/statecontacts](https://humanesociety.org/statecontacts).





Until August, businesses such as puppy mills could get a slap on the wrist rather than a citation for filthy conditions and other violations of the Animal Welfare Act.

## Their 'moments' have passed

*Abuses at puppy mills, roadside zoos and other facilities must now be posted online*

**DRYFORK KENNEL** owner Bill Nored should have known the rules. In 2019, U.S. Department of Agriculture inspectors cited him for violating the Animal Welfare Act when they found a poodle at his Prim, Arkansas, commercial breeding operation with a plum-size mass on her chest. They also discovered a Pomeranian with an eye that had turned opaque and red and developed a protrusion.

Several months later, inspectors cited Nored again, this time for failing to treat a second poodle for advanced dental disease. His other violations during the past decade include a puppy who died without being taken to a veterinarian, limping dogs, dogs with matted fur and a dog with a broken jaw. But in 2021, when inspectors discovered rusty cages and incomplete records on site, they left these problems out of official inspection reports, writing them up only as "teachable moments."

Eclipses Kennel owner Linda Kent

should also have understood what the Animal Welfare Act requires. In 2017, a USDA inspector cited her Elgin, Kansas, commercial breeding operation because one of her dogs had dental issues so serious it was likely painful to eat. Inspectors found other violations in 2018, 2020 and 2022, but Kent wasn't officially cited. She too was written up only for teachable moments, though state inspectors noted



Roadside zoos and research labs also benefited from the USDA's lax enforcement, with violations that might have carried fines reduced to "teachable moments."

built-up dirt and grime in pens and holes in dirt floors and flooring. A Humane Society of the United States investigator photographed dogs in a dirt yard attached to a structure made of rusted, cracked metal sheets and leaning poles.

Allowing inspectors to downplay some Animal Welfare Act violations as teachable moments was supposed to encourage breeders to quickly correct problems, according to the USDA. But these teachable moments obscured actual conditions and prevented consumers from seeing the full picture about breeders such as Nored and Kent. (Both have appeared in the HSUS's annual Horrible Hundred report on puppy mills—inhumane breeding operations that fail to give dogs adequate care.)

Not only were consumers kept in the dark, but pet stores in at least six states that forbid the sale of puppies from breeders who violate the Animal Welfare Act (Arizona, Connecticut, Louisiana, New



*"There's no reason that a federal agency funded by taxpayers should be concealing information."*

—KATHLEEN SUMMERS, THE HSUS

Jersey, Ohio and Virginia) bought puppies from operations that did not comply with the rules because some violations were called teachable moments and left out of inspection reports.

"There's no reason that a federal agency funded by taxpayers should be concealing information," says Kathleen Summers, director of outreach and research for the HSUS Stop Puppy Mills campaign. "A lot of [teachable moments] never went online. Some of them cannot be found to this day."

On Aug. 1, the USDA finally ended the

use of teachable moments following years of work by Humane Society Legislative Fund, the HSUS and other advocates, who got Congress to direct the USDA to end the program. USDA inspectors are now required to record all violations of the Animal Welfare Act by breeders, animal research labs, captive wildlife facilities such as zoos, and other licensees in their reports and to post the data online.

The change represents a major win for animals, say HSUS staff members.

Teachable moments allowed labs using animals to violate the law without consequences, says Mary Hilley, HSUS program coordinator for Animal Research Issues.

And the idea behind them—that certain violations don't matter—was wrong, says Debbie Leahy, HSUS senior strategist for captive wildlife. "If a facility can't comply with the smaller things, what makes you think they're going to be able to handle the bigger things?"

HSLF worked with the Chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Sanford Bishop (D-Ga.), and other members of Congress who determine the USDA's budget, to push the agency to end teachable moments. Both Democratic and Republican members of Congress—most recently, 203 representatives and 43 senators—requested language in bills funding the USDA directing the agency to end teachable moments, says Mimi Brody, HSLF director of federal affairs. After three years of the USDA ignoring these instructions from Congress, says Brody, the agency finally got the message: Stop using teachable moments.

The USDA was focused on making things easier for industries, rather than serving the public, says Brody.

With teachable moments gone, puppy mills and other industries that abuse animals will face greater public scrutiny.

—Karen E. Lange



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## INTERN PROFILE:

*Ariel Lefkovits*

**ROLE:** Federal affairs intern with Humane Society Legislative Fund, summer 2022

**BACKGROUND IN ANIMAL WELFARE:** Bachelor's degree in animal behavior; master's degree in animals and public policy; worked for the ASPCA as an animal caretaker and at a veterinary hospital as a receptionist

**WORK SHE'S MOST PASSIONATE ABOUT:** Ending breed-specific legislation; protecting pit bull-type dogs; keeping pets with their families; improving welfare for farm animals

*Was there a particular dog who inspired you to advocate against breed discrimination?*

Yes! His name was Gary, and I met him while working at the ASPCA. He was a brindle pit bull mix, we think, and he was just the light of my life. He was not always thrilled with other dogs, but the behavioral team found that if you gave him this deflated old basketball, he would carry it with him on walks. And then whenever he saw a dog, instead of barking at them, he would shake the ball. And it was the silliest, cutest, most wonderful thing. But he was just a big baby. He wanted to sit on the floor with his head in your lap, tennis ball in his mouth, belly up, just the happiest guy in the world. He was there for a really long time but did eventually get adopted.

*What did you do during the 12 weeks of your internship?*

Before Congress went on vacation, we were doing a big push to get the Big Cat Public Safety Act passed, which it did in the House. That was very exciting. I was keeping track of that bill and got to watch the House floor debates. I took notes on who spoke in favor and in opposition of the bill and then sat and watched the proxy votes getting called in, all that good stuff. And then I helped maintain different databases, making sure that our reference documents were up to date.

**THE BIG CAT PUBLIC SAFETY ACT** would prohibit keeping big cats as pets and ban direct physical contact between big cats and the public. Voice your support at [humanesociety.org/bigcats](https://humanesociety.org/bigcats).



*What was the most interesting part of your internship?*

Watching the floor vote and the debates. One of the things that we talked about a lot in my grad program was framing and narratives. Seeing that in action with politicians, who arguably have the most practice with that kind of work, was really, really cool.

*Did anything surprise you about legislative work?*

There's a lot of research that's involved, there's a lot of making sure that the numbers and the data that we have are up to date. There's a lot of coalition work and calls with people from all sorts of organizations, strategizing how we can get this issue in front of the person who can potentially best help make it happen.

*What's next for you?*

Three, five years down the road, I would love to be working on a campaign as the person helping to strategize the message, our underlying argument and how are we going to present that and hopefully get a win for animals. —*Edited interview with editorial manager Kelly L. Williams*

**Editor's note:** Lefkovits has since accepted a position as a federal policy fellow with HSLF.

→ **LEARN MORE:** Meet more interns and get the details about our intern program at [humanesociety.org/intern](https://humanesociety.org/intern).



## After the storm

In the aftermath of Hurricane Ian, our Animal Rescue Team deployed to Charlotte County, Florida, to help animals and their family members recover from the devastation.

### SOME OF OUR EFFORTS INCLUDE:

- Providing free pet food and supplies to over 1,500 people. Many were living in tents or cars with their pets.
- Facilitating the evacuation of more than 150 adoptable cats, dogs and guinea pigs from two shelters with the help of Greater Good Charities.
- Offering free veterinary services at a pop-up clinic because most veterinary hospitals in the area closed after the storm or were damaged. Every morning, a line of pet owners formed before the clinic opened. During the week, our veterinary team treated 881 animals.
- Covering the cost of services for pets who needed care we didn't have the capacity to treat on site, such as fractures.

—Brianna Grant



Above, director of animal disaster response Kelly Donithan greets canine and human residents during pet food delivery in Charlotte County; at right, a cat receives a checkup.



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When rescuers found him at the site of an alleged dogfighting operation in South Carolina, Ray had wounds on his chest and an injured leg.

## Coming together for dogfighting survivors

THE HSUS COLLABORATES TO HELP RESCUE 275 DOGS

**AN UNKNOWN NUMBER OF DOGS** were chained in the woods on a recent Sunday morning, and rescuers could hear them barking before they saw them.

According to the U.S. Department of Justice, the joint rescue in September is believed to be the biggest takedown of an alleged dogfighting operation in South Carolina's history: The first day, federal officials interrupted a scheduled dogfight and rescued 14 dogs. The next day, federal and state law enforcement officers executed nearly two dozen search and seizure warrants at multiple properties. More than 20 people were arrested for state charges relating to animal cruelty and dogfighting. Officers worked with animal welfare organizations, including the Humane Society of the United States, to rescue 275 dogs.

Because the dogs were housed across so many locations, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Office of Inspector General assigned the responders to work at specific sites. Our Animal Rescue Team helped remove 70 dogs from three sites and witnessed the heartbreaking conditions the

animals lived in firsthand. Responders also found evidence of dogfighting, such as a self-propelling treadmill and a large pit with chairs around the perimeter.

"Some of the dogs had no shelter. None of the dogs had water. They were really emaciated. ... Many of them had open infected wounds," says Laura Koivula, HSUS director of animal crimes and investigations, about the dogs on the



Now safe, Ray enjoys snuggles with Animal Rescue Team senior director Jessica Johnson.

property she was assigned to work.

Several dogs had injuries so severe they needed emergency veterinary care, including a small black dog with gaping wounds on his chest and a leg injury that made him limp. "You could smell the infection, the odor of the infection, before you got up to him," says Jessica Johnson, senior director of our Animal Rescue Team. A circle of worn grass around the end of his chain indicated that he had been confined to the same spot for a while.

Johnson stroked the dog's back as she took in the scale of his injuries. The young dog accepted her affection but stayed hunched over, staring straight ahead. Koivula describes his face as "totally blank." She suspects he "simply didn't have much [energy] left in him to acknowledge the fact that we were there."

Despite everything they had endured, many of the dogs eagerly approached responders with wagging tails. Others were withdrawn and fearful. After the rescue, the dogs went to confidential locations to recover. The HSUS continues to care for 44 dogs, including the small black dog, now called Ray.

The seizure was a collaborative effort between government agencies and non-profit organizations. Bark Nation helped remove, transport and care for dogs from one of the three properties assigned to our rescue team, and RedRover assisted with the hands-on needs of the 44 dogs in our care during their initial arrival. Koivula is also grateful to the local, state and federal agencies who pursued the case that made this rescue possible.

"Building a case like this takes months, sometimes years, of research and investigation," says Koivula. "It is a massive effort and takes a lot of dedication from so many people."

Now freed from their chains, the dogs' role is simple: rest and recuperate. After undergoing extensive surgery to repair his wounds, Ray is doing just that. Johnson visited him after his surgery and was greeted with gentle tail wags. After a little while, the small dog fell asleep, his head in her hand.

—Brianna Grant



*Illuminated*

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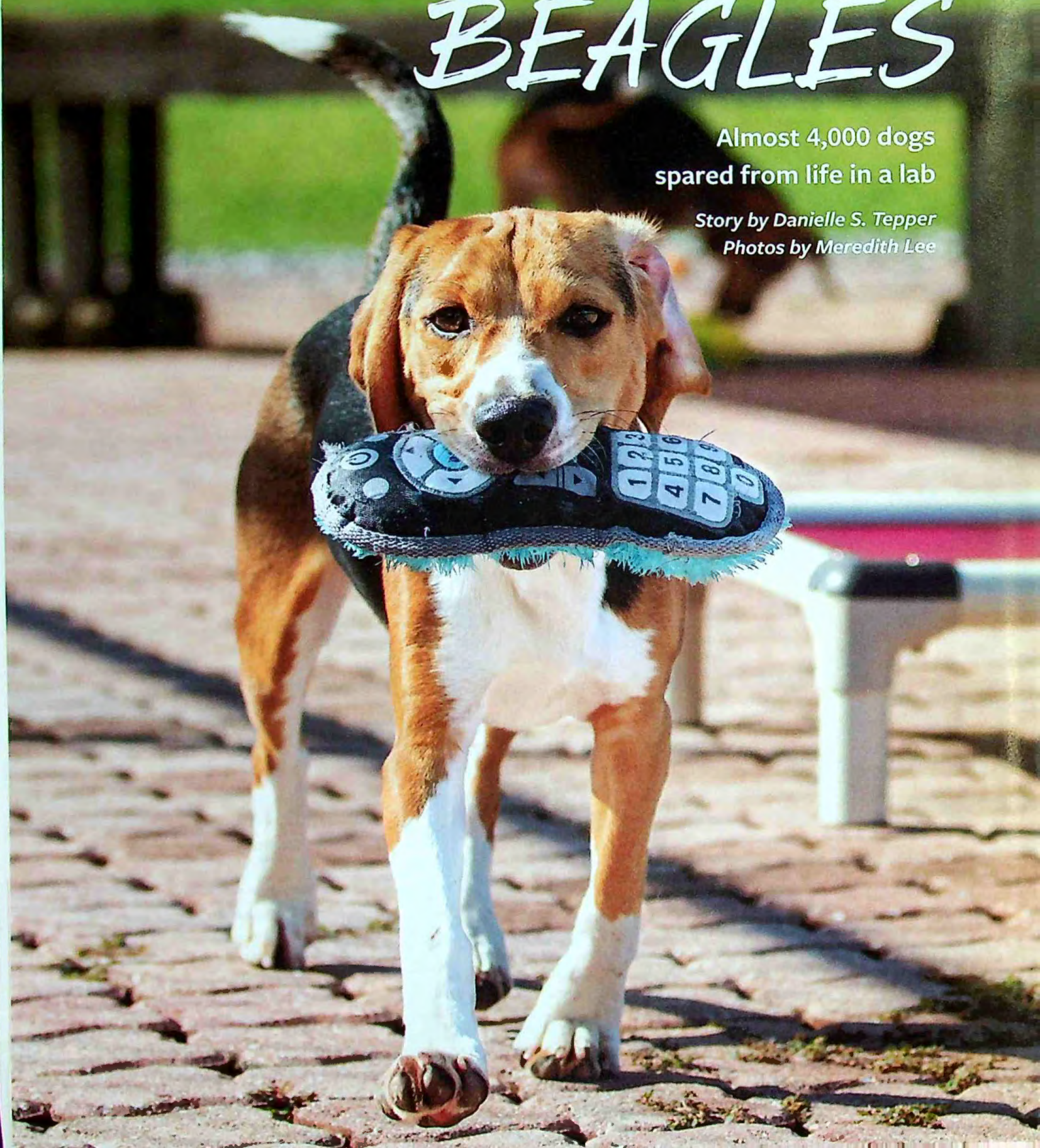


# GOING BIG FOR BEAGLES

Almost 4,000 dogs  
spared from life in a lab

Story by Danielle S. Tepper

Photos by Meredith Lee





**N**ICOLE JAWORSKI is hovering over a big bone-shaped cookie, carefully squeezing more cheese from a can to write out “#4000.” A handful of beagle puppies have already licked off the tasty topping, abandoning the dog-friendly dessert for toys scattered throughout the room at our care and rehabilitation center in Maryland.

“Well, this isn’t something I ever thought I’d be doing for work,” she laughs. Jaworski, senior manager of social media with the Humane Society of the United States, has come prepared with lots of snacks and even a small kiddie pool for the hot August afternoon, as she and other team members help introduce adorable bunches of beagles to our followers via live Instagram video.

Like most puppies, they have short attention spans (they chase after shoelaces, camera lenses and each other), but their indifference toward the cookie could mean they don’t understand what it is. It’s a reminder that these pups are unfamiliar with many common canine pleasures—even treats.

#### BLEAK BEGINNINGS

Nearly 4,000 beagles needed homes this past summer after their

removal from a facility in Cumberland, Virginia, that bred dogs to be sold to laboratories for experimentation. In May, the U.S. Department of Justice filed a lawsuit against Envigo RMS, the facility’s owner, alleging that the company was failing to provide the dogs with humane care as required by the Animal Welfare Act.

HSUS president and CEO Kitty Block described the situation in her blog, *A Humane World*: “Government inspectors found that beagles there were being killed instead of receiving veterinary treatment for easily treated conditions; nursing mother beagles were denied food; the food that they did receive contained maggots, mold and feces; and over an eight-week period, 25 beagle puppies died from cold exposure.”

The dogs ranged in age from just days to 8 years old. Jessica Johnson, senior director of our Animal Rescue Team, recalls being most affected by the older moms.

“Some of them were gray in the face and clearly arthritic,” Johnson says. “They had probably lived their entire lives in that facility, just breeding and breeding and breeding.”

Had these dogs not been removed, many of them would have faced an even crueler fate—many were destined for laboratories nationwide.

*“Government inspectors found that beagles there were being killed instead of receiving veterinary treatment for easily treated conditions.”*

—KITTY BLOCK, THE HSUS



Jessica Johnson, senior director of our Animal Rescue Team, greets a beagle during a transport.





Staff and volunteers help with intake tasks—and form a welcoming committee—as beagles arrive at our care and rehabilitation center.

## THE TRUTH ABOUT TESTING

Breeding facilities like this one sell dogs and other animals to research labs, where they endure a lifetime of pain and suffering as experimentation subjects to test drugs, medical devices or pesticides such as insect repellent and rat poison. They are typically euthanized afterward.

“Information gathered from animal testing has demonstrated time and again to be highly inaccurate and misleading. In fact, somewhere around 90% of drugs tested on animals fail in human trials, approximately half due to unexpected toxicity in humans,” explains Kathleen Conlee, HSUS vice president of Animal Research Issues. “Non-animal approaches are proving to be more accurate, reliable and often provide faster results, which means safer products for humans who are relying on lifesaving treatments. Animal testing will never improve while non-animal technologies will only continue to do so—the sky is the limit.”

The plight of these beagles may have thrown a spotlight on the issue of animal testing, but their situation isn’t unique—on average, more than 60,000 dogs are used in experiments every year in the United States, along with tens of millions of other animals. (Learn more on p. 6.)

## AN ARMY OF ADVOCATES

As a result of the DOJ’s lawsuit, Envigo agreed to close the facility and surrender the nearly 4,000 beagles. That meant a huge number of dogs needed homes, and fast: The team set an ambitious 60-day timeframe.

“The reason it was so short is because the dogs were suffering. There was an emotional urgency to moving them,” explains Lindsay Hamrick, HSUS director of shelter outreach and engagement.

The HSUS was honored when the DOJ asked us to lead the effort. With our network of almost 400 shelter and rescue partners

throughout the country, we had both the expertise and the resources to efficiently facilitate the transfer, says Hamrick. Hundreds of local shelters and rescues reached out to take in beagles, assist with transportation or offer volunteers to help with their care. More than 120 partner groups wound up welcoming the dogs into their adoption programs.

“What really wowed me the most was the collaboration and what we were able to accomplish when we had one common goal,” Johnson says. “Just the sheer magnitude of all of the people who came together to make this happen.”



At the breeding facility, beagles were identified by letters and numbers tattooed in their ears.





## TAKE ACTION!

Help provide even more animals the happily ever after they deserve by donating using the envelope tucked inside this issue or by visiting [humanesociety.org/winter23](http://humanesociety.org/winter23).

"There was such an outpouring of support and a real flexibility," agrees Hamrick. "This was a very unique operation that we had very little control over, but shelters and rescues *figured it out*."

Some partners transported dogs directly from the facility to their shelters. Other dogs went to our care and rehabilitation center before being dispersed to 29 states. Thanks to local and national news coverage, thousands of foster families and adopters were eager to welcome a beagle (or two) into their home.

Shelters were inundated with applications: Adams County SPCA in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, received around 1,500 applications, including one from Portugal. Staffers understood the appeal: "They are just so lovable," says director Abby Avery of the 45 pups the shelter took in. Staff also learned how much patience and understanding the dogs would require; their trauma was obvious even during bath time.

"The brown that ran off of them was like chocolate milk," Avery says. "And we learned they're terrified of moving water."

Documents filed in the underlying case might explain their fear; in granting the DOJ's motion for a temporary restraining order against Envigo, Judge Norman Moon noted: "Beagle puppies remained housed in their enclosures as they were hosed down with cold water, leaving them shivering." But adopters later shared videos of their new family members learning to love water, even jumping up to catch it from a garden hose.

"I know now why they test on beagles. They're so forgiving," Avery says. "They're loyal to a fault. To see them actually become dogs ... it's just amazing."

## WHAT'S IN A NAME

By the last transport day on Sept. 1, the Animal Rescue Team was in high spirits, albeit exhausted and emotionally drained.

"Honestly, the last one hit me most," says Johnson. "We were so laser-focused on just getting it done that none of us had really stopped to think about our feelings."

The final pup (a 2-year-old our team named Fin, French for "end") was removed just two days shy of the 60-day mark.

"What we noticed right away is that despite all of the trauma, he's just the sweetest," says Suzanne Brown-Pelletier

of North Yarmouth, Maine. She and her husband adopted Fin from the Animal Refuge League of Greater Portland. "We recognized that and fell in love."

Fin has since been re-named Sir Biscuit of Barkingham—a name fit for the red carpet, bringing the entire operation full circle: The first group of beagles got the celebrity treatment. One lucky pup was even adopted by *actual* celebrities; Prince Harry and Meghan Markle welcomed a breeding mom, named Momma Mia.

"After a life spent being forced to give birth to litter after litter of puppies destined for laboratories, I can think of no more fitting 'happily ever after' than being adopted by the Duke and Duchess of Sussex," Block told *The New York Times*.

Ollie, Mac, Pepper, Nora, Clover, Ella, Copper—the thousands of dogs formerly identified only by a code tattooed in their ears now have names as individual as their personalities.

And, thanks to animal lovers like you, they'll also get to have warm beds and loving families—even big bone-shaped cookies—for the rest of their lives.



Adams County SPCA in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, helped 45 beagles find homes. Here, veterinary technician Lori Wetzel (far left) and shelter technician Tonya Hays enjoy beagle playtime.



# 3,776 BEAGLES

were spared from life in a laboratory  
thanks to a nationwide effort from  
staff, partners and volunteers.



Animal Rescue Team  
staff drove at least

**1,801  
MILES**

with beagles on board



**1,061  
BEAGLES**

received TLC at our care center  
before continuing on their journey



**359**

beagles were flown  
to partners  
across the country



# PAWESOME PARTNERS

*"Our staff, volunteers and entire community have rallied around these amazing animals and are honored to be a part of their lifesaving journey."*

—JESSICA DES LAURIERS, SAN DIEGO HUMANE SOCIETY, CALIFORNIA

*"It's been a pleasure to watch these precious beagles grow up in foster homes and be spoiled by love and snuggles (plus toys, treats and fluffy beds) just waiting to be adopted!"*

—CHRISTIE PETERS, RICHMOND ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL, VIRGINIA

*"While it was heartbreaking to know how much these dogs had endured prior to arriving at KHS, it brought us great joy to provide all of these dogs with the fresh start they so deserve."*

—KAREN KOENIG, KENTUCKY HUMANE SOCIETY

*"Witnessing the arrival of the Wings of Rescue flight with 100 beagles on board was heartwarming and heartbreaking at the same time. However, knowing we could provide these dogs with the love and care that they deserve was a privilege for our team."*

—JEANA ROTH, ANIMAL REFUGE LEAGUE OF GREATER PORTLAND, MAINE

*"More than 300 people expressed interest in fostering and/or adopting [our first] 91 beagles, so we pursued a second transport with the HSUS. We were again inundated with people willing to drive the transport vans, lovingly intake each animal and open their homes to these 166 beagles."*

—DEAN DAUBERT, ANDERSON HUMANE, ILLINOIS



## LEARN MORE

Consider supporting our shelter and rescue partners in your state! See the full list of partners who assisted with the beagle transfer at [humanesociety.org/4000beagles](https://humanesociety.org/4000beagles).



# Building a

We think big here at the Humane Society family of organizations. As we close out 2022, here's a peek into the kinder, more compassionate world we hope to create—and a few of the milestones that are helping us get there.



## Giving farm animals a better life

**LONG-TERM VISION:** The animals in our food and farm systems no longer suffer from extreme confinement and other inhumane practices.



10

states now ban the sale and/or production of eggs from caged chickens.



## Putting puppy mills out of business

**LONG-TERM VISION:** Mother dogs and their puppies no longer suffer in puppy mills and pet stores no longer sell puppies and kittens from mills.



18

puppy mills featured in our annual Horrible Hundred report have closed down or lost their licenses this year alone.



## Helping animals in crisis

**LONG-TERM VISION:** Governmental and non-governmental organizations have the resources and knowledge to respond to crises locally. When we partner with a law enforcement or animal welfare agency, we provide them with tools that allow them to be more prepared in the future.



5,100+

animals in the U.S. alone have received care from our Animal Rescue Team so far this year.

4.9 MILLION



pounds of pet food have been distributed through our Pets for Life and Rural Area Veterinary Services programs this year.

## Building a stronger animal protection movement

**LONG-TERM VISION:** Agencies and organizations around the country and around the globe are empowered to care for the animals in their communities with the best and most up-to-date practices.



563

organizations have signed our Wild Neighbors pledge (including 130 in 2022 alone), committing to use nonlethal solutions to wildlife conflicts.



# better world



## Ending cosmetics testing on animals

**LONG-TERM VISION:** No animal suffers for the sake of personal care products.



9

states now ban the sale of cosmetics products that have been tested on animals.



## Taking fur out of fashion

**LONG-TERM VISION:** No animals are killed for their coats, and the fur industry is a relic of the past.



1,500+

retail brands have gone fur-free.

## Stopping the dog meat trade

**LONG-TERM VISION:** Dogs are no longer raised and killed for their meat.

2,525



dogs have been rescued from meat farms by HSI and our partners since we began our campaign in South Korea.



## Protecting wild animals

**LONG-TERM VISION:** Wild animals are no longer hunted for bragging rights or to display their bodies or parts, and they are no longer kept captive for inhumane attractions such as roadside zoos, traveling shows, circuses and more.



172

localities in 37 states now ban the use of wild animals in traveling shows.





# Milestones and

**IT HAPPENS EVERY AUTUMN:** As we sit down to gather some of the biggest victories you helped make possible for our year-end roundup, we're stumped. How do we share the thousands of achievements, big and small, that together we've made for animals in 2022?

The short answer is, we can't. We could give you the statistics that mark our progress—the 114 animal-friendly state and local laws we helped pass in the United States; the 33,000-plus U.S. animals who received services through our Pets for Life and Rural Area Veterinary Services programs—but they wouldn't tell the full story. Numbers don't tell you about the people behind these wins—the staff members, volunteers and advocates who keep pushing for progress—or the animals who benefit.

So instead, we're sharing some of the most meaningful moments of this year, ones that represent our relentless quest for a better world. This isn't a complete list. It's just a glimpse of what you make possible, through your donations, your advocacy and your support.

We truly couldn't do it without you. **Thank you.**

—Kelly L. Williams



## July

With the help of our shelter and rescue partners, we began our historic transport of nearly 4,000 beagles from Envigo, a Virginia-based facility that bred dogs to be sold to laboratories for experimentation. Most of these pups would've eventually ended up in testing labs, but instead they found loving homes. (See p. 14 for the full story.)

## June

After working with our Farm Animal Protection team, food service company ISS Guckenheimer announced that an unparalleled 55% of its meals will be plant-based by 2025. Aramark and Sodexo, two of the top-three largest food service companies in the United States, likewise committed to increasing their plant-based offerings by 2025.



## June

With our support, Louisiana became the ninth state to ban the sale of cosmetics tested on animals.

## May

Following the lead of Houston, which passed a similar ordinance in January, Dallas banned the sale of puppy mill puppies in pet stores. Now every major city in Texas has one of these HSUS-supported ordinances on the books.



## July

A coalition of conservation and animal welfare groups that included the HSUS celebrated when a federal district court rescinded sweeping Endangered Species Act rollbacks challenged by the coalition in 2019. The decision is temporarily halted pending an appeal, but once effective it will strengthen protections for countless imperiled species and their habitats.



## August

We helped our partner organization Vshine rescue 150 cats bound for slaughter in Jinan, Shandong Province, China. Five people were arrested for stealing the cats, likely from their owners, and using sparrows—a protected species in China—as bait.





# moments

## January

Luxury fashion brands Dolce&Gabbana and Moncler announced that they're going fur-free. After years of tireless work by our fur-free team and partner groups, few luxury brands still use animal fur.



MONCLER

DOLCE & GABBANA

## March

The Brazilian city of Anchieta committed to reducing the animal products served at its schools and government institutions by 20% after working with Humane Society International and our partner group Mercy for Animals. The municipalities of Botucatu, Salvador and Sobral implemented similar commitments—meaning that more than 13.6 million plates across these cities will be plant-based rather than animal-based each year. (See p. 30 for a recipe from our Brazilian chef.)



## March

With our encouragement, Indiana banned public contact with bears and big cats. Indiana became the 13th state to put such restrictions in place when Gov. Eric Holcomb signed the bill into law.

## April

Our undercover investigator spent seven months at Inotiv—an animal testing facility in Indiana—documenting the use of dogs, primates, “minipigs,” mice and rats in drug toxicity studies. When we released the investigation, 281,000 of you signed a petition asking Inotiv to free puppies being used for tests rather than euthanizing them. Inotiv never directly responded, and we filed a formal complaint with the U.S. Department of Agriculture about possible Animal Welfare Act violations at the facility.



## April

As part of our work helping pets affected by the war in Ukraine (including the cat at left), HSI launched the Vets for Ukrainian Pets program in collaboration with the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe and the Federation of European Companion Animal Veterinary Associations. The program provides free veterinary care for the pets of war refugees in 38 countries and runs until Dec. 31, 2022.

## September

Lilly (shown at left) became the 20,000th dog sterilized through HSI/India's street dog program. And the Indian city of Vadodara achieved a record-breaking 86% sterilization rate, leading to a 60% drop in dog-related complaints.

## September

California became the first U.S. state to ban toxicity tests on dogs and cats for pesticides and food additives when Gov. Gavin Newsom signed the HSUS-supported PET Act into law. (Learn more about dogs in research on p. 6.)



## September-October

As we sent this issue to press, our Animal Rescue Team was busy. We assisted government officials in rescuing 275 dogs—including the pup at right—from a suspected dogfighting operation in South Carolina (see p. 12) before deploying to Florida, where we responded to Hurricane Ian (see p. 11).







## Grieving the loss of a companion animal

*When pets pass, some owners find healing in historically human mourning rituals*

**COREY ROSCOE** was in college when the tortoiseshell started hanging around her apartment building's trash and crying loudly.

"These loud cries across the parking lot were like the beacon for my inner cat person," says Roscoe, director of humane policy volunteer state engagement at the Humane Society of the United States. Roscoe started feeding the vocal feline, and after several weeks, the cat allowed Roscoe to touch her. After a few months, Roscoe could take her to the vet. From then on, Roscoe had a pet: Angel.

"I was feeling kind of lonely at the time, and here's this very loud cat basically calling me to intervene in her life. I just felt like it was one of those guardian angel situations," Roscoe says. Over two decades, as the pair moved from Ohio to California

to Florida, Roscoe's friends and family became fond of the expressive cat, as well.

"She was known throughout her life to be very, very loud," says Roscoe, whose job includes public speaking. "I got the cat



Angel the cat was a beloved companion for two decades.

version of myself."

Then, in late May, Angel became withdrawn and felt cold to the touch. Two decades after Angel first trusted Roscoe to take her to the vet, she trusted her one last time. On a couch at the vet's office, Roscoe placed Angel to the right—the side she always preferred at home—as the vet gently sedated and then euthanized her.

"She was my first and only pet as an adult," says Roscoe, whose chance encounter led to a relationship spanning her 20s and 30s. "Probably the hardest thing I've ever had to do was come to terms with the reality of her passing."

After Angel's death, Roscoe took the two pet bereavement days offered by the HSUS, during which she mostly cried. Friends, family and co-workers rallied around her, sending cards, gifts and flowers that Roscoe



*"When I look back at my shrine, or I look back at those weeks, the months, and I remember the outpouring of love? That's what got me through it all."*

—COREY ROSCOE, THE HSUS



placed around Angel's ashes.

What resulted was a "sort of shrine," says Roscoe. Although she felt a little awkward, she posted a tribute to Angel on Facebook and was touched by the supportive comments. Eventually, Roscoe realized she'd accidentally recreated a funeral.

There's a reason we value these symbols of mourning, she says. "When I look back at my shrine, or I look back at those weeks, the months, and I remember the outpouring of love? That's what got me through it all."

#### REAL, IMPACTFUL GRIEF

Given Roscoe's experience, it's no surprise

that when Cleveland's *The Plain Dealer* accidentally printed a pet obituary alongside its human obituaries in March, the response was divided between outrage and gratitude. Readers responded so passionately to the mistake that it prompted two apologetic letters from the editor—and the promise of a new section in the paper for pet obituaries.

Many readers felt an affinity with the pet owner, who had (accidentally) been able to publicly mourn their pet rather than experience "disenfranchised grief" (grief that isn't acknowledged by society).

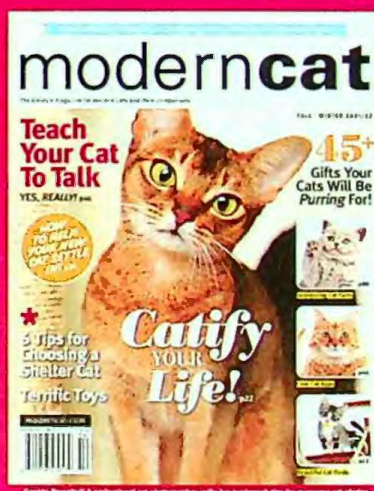
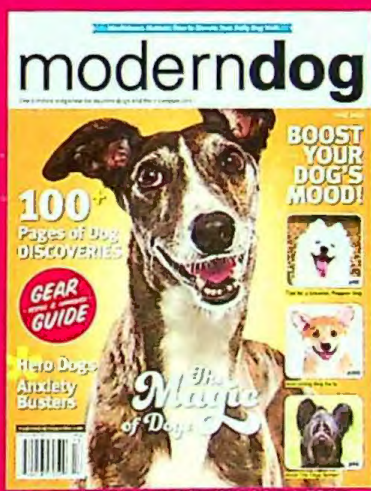
"If there had been the option of an obit we probably would have run one," wrote

an 81-year-old reader on the death of his dog Murphy. That's likely because numerous studies show those who experience pet death may feel grief synonymous with the death of a human, with study authors concluding that health professionals should provide similar bereavement support for both.

The pet care industry is getting wise to the need for memorialization—offering jewelry made from cremation ashes and portraits, statues, plush animals and more featuring deceased pets—but the concept isn't new. Baltimore Humane Society in Maryland has offered pet funeral services and burials in its 365-acre cemetery for nearly a century, says pet funeral director and bereavement counselor Veronica Van Hof. She hosts funerals almost daily, which range from large affairs with food, decorations, music and slideshows to quiet graveside services.

"We know how painful the loss of a pet

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is. We know how closely intertwined in our lives and families they are,” explains Van Hof.

So intertwined are pets in families’ lives that when one family lost their dog and their young son at the same time, they asked for Van Hof’s help with a logistical problem: They desperately wanted their dog’s ashes placed in their son’s casket. Amid the family’s unthinkable loss, Van Hof was able to find a crematory that could take the dog last minute, then waited on site and rushed the ashes back. The best friends were buried—together.

## THE GREAT EQUALIZER

Baltimore Humane also offers monthly bereavement support services and an annual Pet Memorial Sunday, which features guest speakers, a musician and a flower ceremony. On Facebook, attendees described this year’s ceremony as “what our heart needed” and “a much-needed step in our grieving process.” One mother and son travel from Illinois to visit their dog’s grave each year.

“Everyone always goes, ‘these are the stages of grief,’ ” says Jennifer Gerber, a volunteer who facilitates the support group, but “you meander through the

*“We know how painful the loss of a pet is. We know how closely intertwined in our lives and families they are.”*

—VERONICA VAN HOF,  
BALTIMORE HUMANE SOCIETY

different stages, back and forth and in and out. It’s not a linear process. A lot of people come to the group and ask, ‘how long can I expect to feel this way?’ and the answer is there is no answer.”

Gerber herself started out as a bereavement group participant after losing Dachshund Gracie in 2016. “It was a tremendous help to me,” she says. “It’s like entering a whole other world when you’re in a room with other people who you don’t have to explain yourself to.”

Gerber feels strongly that society doesn’t treat pet loss with the gravity it deserves, and new research supports this sentiment. Participants in a small study of women over 55 who experienced pet loss

reported weeks to months of intense grief, as well as the perception that it was dismissed by others.

The study authors wrote that “there are few socially acceptable and viable death rituals for people bereaved by [pet] death. If bereaved [pet] owners are unable to express themselves, the healing process may be complicated or prolonged.” Likewise, Gerber worries that when people are told, implicitly or directly, to “get over” the loss of a pet, they won’t seek help managing their grief.

“When they pass, it’s sort of like the history of your life flashing in front of you, as well, because they are tied to those moments in your life,” says Roscoe. “Without embracing that active mourning, without allowing myself to cry when I felt sad, I would have halted progress toward moving through the grief process.”

“You’re always going to have a portion of society ... that doesn’t understand the bond that a person can have with a pet,” adds Gerber, but pet owners come from all walks of life. “It’s this great equalizer: Just how much these people cared for their animals, and how difficult it is for them to get through losing them.”

—Bethany W. Adams



At Baltimore Humane Society’s annual Pet Memorial Sunday, bereaved pet owners remember pets they’ve lost over the years (above). Memorial stones mark the graves of departed residents at Ruff Ranch Sanctuary in Virginia (right).



PHOTO LEFT: COURTESY OF BALTIMORE HUMANE SOCIETY; PHOTO RIGHT: RUFF RANCH





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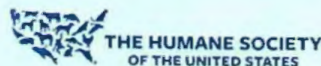
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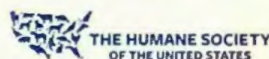
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## *It's their world, too*

### Curbing your dog's instinct to hunt and harass wild animals

**SOMEWHERE TOWARD** the end of the last ice age, we formed an alliance with wolves: Maybe the ancestors of dogs got food scraps while our own ancestors gained protection from predators and other humans. These social species eventually collaborated on a vast scale, possibly even hunting woolly mammoths together.

Since then, our relationship has gone through a few updates. We became herding partners, and now we're beloved best friends living in heated homes. But there's one part of this shared lifestyle still in need of modernizing: the tendency to let dogs chase, injure or kill wild animals. Domestication has not dampened their primal instincts, and even small pooches sometimes believe they can take on the wild world with their teeth.

Scroll the social media feed of any wildlife rehabilitation center to see the sad results: From Washington, D.C., to

Atlanta to Oklahoma to Seattle, the stories of maimed songbirds, snakes, turtles, opossums, otters, raccoons, rabbits, foxes and fawns repeat themselves. Sometimes animals have no visible injuries but have been chased to exhaustion. Even sadder are the countless conflicts we rarely hear about: those wild animals killed outright by dogs or by humans who think their pets should have exclusive use of the outdoors. Bears and coyotes, attracted to human-made food sources, end up being punished for problems that people could have easily prevented.

*The impact of free-roaming cats on wildlife has long been a hot topic, but the role of dogs gets less attention.*

The impact of free-roaming cats on wildlife has long been a hot topic, but the role of dogs gets less attention. Many people see antagonism toward wildlife as natural behavior and therefore intractable. Describing her Scottish terrier puppy's harassment of a black rat snake and his delivery of a groundhog to her door last year, my neighbor responded blankly to my expression of sadness by saying, "He's a ratter. That's what they do."


When I relayed that conversation to HSUS senior director of urban wildlife programs John Griffin, he noted that splintered attitudes toward wildlife often culminate in dog-wildlife encounters. "If that terrier brought them a charismatic species—a fledgling robin or Eastern bluebird," he says, "then it would probably be a different feeling. That's part of the bias that exists."


Being a friend to animals means considering not just our pets and the wild animals





we cherish, but also those who have little to no perceived value or legal protection. In many states, groundhogs can be killed all year, as can coyotes and other animals viewed as “pests,” with no limits on the numbers. Open seasons on raccoons, skunks and opossums often last for many months. Add other forms of human destruction—pesticides, habitat removal—and it’s a wonder these animals have anywhere left to go where they are not under constant stress. The least we can do is avoid unleashing our dogs on them, too. Here are some steps to keep both dogs and wildlife safe.


*Being a friend to animals means considering not just our pets and the wild animals we cherish, but also those who have little to no perceived value or legal protection.*

 **DON'T RELY SOLELY ON FENCES.** Fencing inhibits quick escapes—a lesson we learned when our dog cornered an opossum at midnight. Thankfully my husband intervened in time, but that was the end of those late-night leashless walks. Especially at night and at dawn, when wildlife are most likely to be out, six-foot leads can help prevent conflict.

 **CREATE STRUCTURE.** We all thrive on routines, and dogs aren’t the only smart animals in our environs. Squirrels, deer, rabbits and many others take note of times and places that appear safest. Take your dog out around the same times every day when possible, and create pathways she can follow.

 **LEARN WHO SHARES YOUR SPACE.** Do you have a persimmon tree where an opossum eats fruit in autumn? A potting bench that a skunk hides behind? A shed where foxes are raising their kits below? Your dog will sniff them out even if you don’t. Learning the habits of wild animals will help you give them the space they need.

 **KEEP AN EYE OUT.** A dog’s obsession with a certain spot in the spring, for example, might indicate a pending attack on a rabbit nest. Armed with this knowledge, you can pull her away, add a temporary barrier that allows rabbits to come and go but prevents dog access, and leash your dog until the rabbits have grown. When you see dogs harassing wildlife, you can also redirect their instincts, making noise and offering treats to distract them.

 **REMOVE CONCENTRATED ATTRACTANTS.** Bird feeding leads to some of the most preventable and sometimes devastating conflicts between humans and wild mammals. It can also make wildlife more vulnerable by attracting them in large numbers to the same spot. Birds find far more food and shelter in native plantings anyway, so I encourage people to create habitat that helps all animals and diffuses their presence across landscapes. (Extra bonus: Wildlife gardens offer the best Cat TV for our indoor feline friends!)

Most of all, remember that just because dogs were originally trained to hunt wildlife doesn’t mean they can’t be retrained, or at least redirected, now. Terriers may have once been “ratters,” but my neighbor would no sooner expect him to catch rats than woolly mammoths. Rather than allowing pets to terrorize groundhogs and black rat snakes (who actually are ratters), why not think of them as partners in a new endeavor, one that forges a more peaceful coexistence?

Nancy Lawson is the author of *The Humane Gardener*.



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### *Bringing meatless meals to Brazilian schools*

**I'VE OFTEN DREAMT** of taking plant-based food to the land of my ancestors here in Brazil. As a chef with Humane Society International, I create plant-based recipes based on ingredients available in schools and have trained hundreds of chefs in how to make them. This year we partnered with the municipality of Salvador—one of Brazil's largest cities in terms of population—to incorporate meatless meals one day a week in all 444 municipal schools. Through our partnership, 170,000 students will improve their diet with delicious plant-based recipes, and more than 10 million meals will become animal-free each year. It's especially exciting to create recipes for schoolchildren, who are always so interested and engaged with the well-being of the planet and animals. It is also exciting to

help a new generation recognize and be more than satisfied with meals that are not focused around animal products.

In choosing the recipes to share with the team in Salvador, I sought to maintain the essence and richness of the area's regional traditions. Salvador is one of the cities that most keeps the heritage of Black and Indigenous peoples alive, especially

*Through our partnership,  
170,000 students will improve  
their diet with delicious  
plant-based recipes, and more  
than 10 million meals will  
become animal-free each year.*

through its cuisine.

One recipe I created for the school menu was moqueca, a well-known dish traditionally made with fish. The name comes from *pokeka*, a term used by Indigenous peoples for fish they used to bake wrapped in leaves. Thanks to the cultural exchange between African and Indigenous peoples, over time the recipe gained ingredients such as palm oil and cilantro and became what it is today.

My version includes white beans as a base, because they have a very soft texture and a light flavor that can easily absorb the other seasonings. Their appearance is also reminiscent of the fish-based moqueca.

I shared the recipe with the municipality's chefs during a training workshop, which included a satisfaction survey at the



end. By including the familiar flavors of palm oil and cilantro, the moqueca inspired what we call *acolhimento*—the feeling of getting a warm hug, as if food is embracing our souls. The chefs were also impressed with the “taste of the sea” that we managed to keep, even without using any animal products: just simple and affordable ingredients that they already have available for school lunches.

This year marks 14 years of plant-based cooking for me. When I started, my intention was to put all my love into the pans and to help people learn how simple, pleasurable and tasty eating compassionately can be. I love the infinite possibilities of creation and combinations that nature provides, and as an HSI chef, I feel fulfilled by teaching so many people how to make affordable, sustainable food that does not harm animals.

—Adriele Carvalho is a chef with Humane Society International in Brazil.

## White bean moqueca

2 tablespoons palm oil (Find sustainably produced palm oil at international markets. You can substitute additional olive oil instead, but palm oil gives the dish its signature flavor.)

2 tablespoons olive oil  
5 cloves of garlic, finely chopped (almost crushed)  
1 small onion, sliced  
1 small yellow bell pepper, sliced, seeds and ribs removed  
3 cups cooked cannellini beans  
1 medium tomato, sliced  
1 teaspoon salt  
1 ½ cups full-fat coconut milk  
½ cup chopped fresh cilantro  
Cooked rice, for serving

1. In a large pot, heat the oils on medium. Add the garlic and sauté briefly until golden, then add the onion and let it wilt for 5 minutes.
2. Lower the heat and add the sliced pepper. Mix well, cover and cook for



- 5 minutes, until soft and wilted.
3. Add the beans, tomato, salt and coconut milk. Mix well and cook, covered, for 10 minutes.
  4. Top with fresh cilantro and serve hot over rice.

**SERVES 5.** Per serving (not including rice): Calories: 402; fat: 25 g; protein: 12 g; carbohydrates: 33 g; sodium: 479 mg; sugar: 3 g

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**LIVE NEAR THE 14,000-FOOT MOUNT EVANS IN COLORADO** and travel up the mountain several times a summer to enjoy the scenery and watch wildlife. I occasionally see American pikas, but it's difficult to get a good view of these small and quick animals. Pikas are relatives of rabbits and hares who live at high elevations. They are threatened by our warming climate and many have already disappeared from their former habitats, like Zion National Park in Utah.

I recently discovered a rocky area that appeared to be a pika village. I was very excited—I had been trying to photograph pikas for a while but none of the photos turned out well. I sat on a rock and waited for the noisy guys to come out of hiding. I was rewarded with sightings of pikas scurrying around and collecting their winter stash of grasses and flowers. One perched on a rock and squeaked to warn his neighbors about a nearby weasel. Until I reviewed the photos at home, I had not realized that I'd captured a pika mid-chirp. That was even more exciting.

—ANN ZIMMERMAN, IDAHO SPRINGS, COLORADO



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## *Working toward a kinder world*

Debbie and her  
canine pal Buddy.



**DEBBIE RADFORD GREW UP** in a real-life enchanted forest, amid the lush woods, lakes and wildlife of New York State. The natural world sparked her love of animals at an early age. She watched tadpoles mature into frogs and birds frequent her bird feeder. Her family kept a menagerie of animal companions, including dogs, turtles, hamsters, mice, tropical fish and George the iguana, who grew to be 5 feet long. As an adult, Debbie learned to scuba dive and built a saltwater tank for her invertebrate companions.

The animal love of Debbie's life is Buffy, a Persian cat, whom she rescued four years ago. At first, Buffy was extremely shy and anxious and lacked a full coat of fur. Over time, Buffy has blossomed, growing less timid—and more strikingly beautiful!—thanks to Debbie's patience and abundant love.

As an animal advocate and philanthropist, Debbie is deeply touched by animal suffering. "Animals are innocent beings that can't speak for themselves, and most have emotions and feelings just like we do. We are the ones who must care for them, to help them to navigate our ever-changing world. It breaks my heart to hear that people are treating animals in a cruel way. I hope my contributions help in that regard."

Debbie considers herself very fortunate in her life and her careers; she currently works as a real estate broker and investor. She believes wholeheartedly in giving back and has donated to the Humane Society of the United States her entire working life. Debbie chose the HSUS because its mission includes the alleviation of animal suffering. She therefore decided to place a portion of her real estate portfolio in a charitable remainder trust. She's happy not only to help the HSUS rescue, care for and protect animals, but also to support the dedicated volunteers who help make our work possible.

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